

Space and Missile Defense Test and Evaluation Center

The Space and Missile Defense Test and Evaluation Center (SMDTEC) is the Major Command (MACOM) lead organization and executive agent for developmental and operational test and evaluation. The SMDTEC provides external focus for MACOM testing and articulates MACOM's testing resource/investment positions/priorities to the Army and external agencies. The SMDTEC is responsible for formulating, developing, and implementing U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) test and evaluation policy and activities; for coordinating the management, programming, budgeting, and test execution at U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site (USAKA/RTS) in the Marshall Islands, High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility (HELSTF) in New Mexico, and for the coordination, management, and execution of security and base operations functions at the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) developmental testbed at Fort Greely, Alaska.

The hub of the Test and Evaluation Center is located in Huntsville, Ala.; its major elements are located across the command:

U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site (USAKA/RTS)

- Provides strategic and theater missile system testing
- Provides sensor research and development testing
- DoD-designated Major Range and Test Facility Base (MRTFB)
- Supports national space operations
- Supports the Compact of Free Association with the Republic of the Marshall Islands

High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility (HELSTF)

- Located at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.
- Only fully integrated, full-spectrum power laser facility capable of static to dynamic laser tests on instrumented range
- DoD-designated Major Range and Test Facility Base (MRTFB)

- Tracks with high speed, high resolution infrared imaging of missile intercept and satellites
- The large vacuum chamber at HELSTF is the DoD's only explosive qualified chamber for space vehicle and laser effects testing

Fort Greely, Alaska (FGA)

- Conducts base operations to support the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) system and other tenants, while providing resources to support Alaska Command, Army Test and Evaluation Command, U.S. Army Alaska, and other training
- SMDC commanding general is senior mission commander at Fort Greely
- Originally planned as testbed with defensive capabilities; however, National Security Presidential Directive-23 changed the site to being a defensive operation (IDO) with testbed capabilities

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